

**To:** Washburn, Ben[washburn.ben@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Sanders, LaTonya[Sanders.Latonya@epa.gov]; Peterson, Mary[Peterson.Mary@epa.gov]; Fenton, Kathleen[Fenton.Kathleen@epa.gov]; Bond, Shannon[bond.shannon@epa.gov]; Kessler, Martin[Kessler.Martin@epa.gov]  
**From:** Carey, Curtis  
**Sent:** Thur 7/17/2014 9:36:52 PM  
**Subject:** RE: OPA Daily Digest 7/17/14

Ben,

Is this formatted in outlook? Or do we have a spreadsheet I can use to calculate how many inquiries, etc. we've managed this quarter?

**From:** Washburn, Ben  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 17, 2014 4:26 PM  
**Subject:** OPA Daily Digest 7/17/14

## **OPA Daily Digest for 7/17/14**

### **Congressional Inquiries:**

**Sen. Pat Roberts** (Kan.); **Sen. Jerry Moran** (Kan.); **Rep. Time Huelskamp** (Kan.); **Rep. Lynn Jenkins** (Kan.); **Rep. Kevin Yoder** (Kan.); **Rep. Mike Pompeo** (Kan.) – Letter – 7/9/14: Military vehicles transferred to fire departments by the Kansas Fire Service. Due: 7/23/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (closed)

### **State Government Inquiries:**

None

## **Press Inquiries:**

**Wall Street Journal** – John Emshwiller – 7/9/14: Questions about isolation barrier project at West Lake Landfill in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (open)

**KWMU Public Radio, St. Louis** – Veronique LaCapra – 7/14/14: Questions about West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

**St. Louis Post-Dispatch** – Blythe Bernhard – 7/17/14: Questions about cleanup of the St. Joe State Park Site in Missouri. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

## **Environmental Stories:**

**Nebraska Radio Network - Nebraska Farm Bureau warns Congress of EPA expansion** - 7/17/14 - Nebraska Farm Bureau members have wrapped up their annual trek to Washington, after lobbying against a proposed expansion of the power of the Environmental Protection Agency. Todd Reed of Lincoln co-owns a custom farming operation south of Greenwood. He worries a change in definition could allow the EPA to regulate waterways on farms.

<http://nebraskaradionetwork.com/2014/07/17/nebraska-farm-bureau-warns-congress-of-epa-expansion/>

**Cattle Network - Time to send a clear message to EPA** - 7/17/14 - Water in Kansas is a precious resource. Kansans are keenly aware of the importance of protecting the soil, water, air and other natural resources found in our great state. Without water, including clean drinking water, our major industries including agriculture, and the wellbeing of Kansans is at stake.

<http://www.cattlenetwork.com/cattle-news/latest/Time-to-send-a-clear-message-to-EPA-267557961.html>

**Southeast Missourian - Special Issue: MO Department of Natural Resources** - 7/17/14 - I met with DNR Director Sara Parker-Pauley and Legislative Liaison Mary Mulhearn July 14 to discuss the department's Nonpoint Source Management Plan (NPSMP). This program plan recently has drawn some attention --my own included-- because it is related to the EPA's Clean Water Act.

<http://www.semissourian.com/blogs/lichtenegger/entry/58941/>

**Environment & Energy Publishing - 'Tight' EPA timelines hover over end of utility regulators' gathering - 7/17/14** - Utility regulators closed their summer meetings yesterday, but they know the real work on U.S. EPA's carbon proposal lies ahead. Just not that far ahead. The EPA proposal, released last month, is expected to be finalized next year. Initial plans on how states will move to curb carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants are expected by mid-2016.

<http://www.eenews.net/energywire/stories/1060003034>

**Agri-Pulse - EPA defends 'Water' rule as House committee passes bill to halt it - 7/16/14** - The House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure approved a bill today that would invalidate the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed rule re-defining "Waters of the United States" under the Clean Water Act (CWA). EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released the proposal in March, and extended the public comment period until Oct. 20.

<http://www.agri-pulse.com/EPA-defends-water-rule-House-committee-bill-halt-7162014.asp>

**Associated Press - Obama's second-in-command at EPA resigns - 7/17/14** - The No. 2 environmental official under President Barack Obama is resigning to head a nonprofit group dedicated to energy and climate change. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy on Thursday announced the resignation of Bob Perciasepe (pur-cha-SEP'-ee). He was appointed deputy administrator in 2009 as the Obama administration tapped the EPA to tackle pollution blamed for global warming.

<http://www.kansas.com/2014/07/17/3556653/obamas-second-in-command-at-epa.html>

**Radio Iowa - Report says state water pollution strategy not strong enough - 7/17/14** - A report from the Iowa Policy Project (IPP) is critical of the state's current strategies to fight water pollution. IPP founder David Osterberg says the 2013 Nutrient Reduction Strategy (NRS) relies heavily on voluntary conservation practices and does not require water quality monitoring to determine if nutrient pollution is actually being reduced.

<http://www.radioiowa.com/2014/07/17/report-says-state-water-pollution-strategy-not-strong-enough/>

**AgWired - WOTUS Means More Regulation - 7/17/14** - This is one of the hottest topics in the ag sector these days with a lot of uncertainty about what the future holds, especially when you see states starting to fine people for "wasteful use of water."

<http://agwired.com/2014/07/17/wotus-means-more-regulation/>

**Sustainable Business - Obama Pushes Climate Resilient Infrastructure Forward - 7/17/14** - In response to recommendations from the Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience, President Obama announced initiatives that will protect rural power supplies, build resilient infrastructure and help communities respond better to extreme weather events.

<http://www.sustainablebusiness.com/index.cfm/go/news.display/id/25815>

**Daily Caller - EPA No. 2 Leaves To Head Up Environmental Group - 7/17/14** - The Environmental Protection Agency's second-in-command will be leaving the agency to head up an environmental group specializing in green energy and global warming policy. The move comes after about two years of scandals and controversies that mired the EPA's reputation. <http://dailycaller.com/2014/07/17/epa-no-2-leaves-to-head-up-environmental-group/#ixzz37lMZNja5>

**The Hill - EPA awards \$2.1 million for urban water projects - 7/17/14** - The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said it has given \$2.1 million in grants to 37 organizations to protect and restore urban bodies of water and improve water quality. The projects in 17 states and Puerto Rico are aimed at improving canals, rivers, lakes and other water bodies in urbanized areas, the EPA said.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/212580-epa-awards-21-million-for-urban-water-projects>

**The Hill - Senators join in EPA 'secret science' charge - 7/17/14** - Eight GOP senators have introduced a bill to block the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from using undisclosed scientific studies to justify its regulations, joining House Republicans in the "secret science" accusation. The EPA would be prohibited from using science that is not public in proposing, finalizing or disseminating rules under the bill, the sponsors said.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/212550-senators-join-in-epa-secret-science-charge>

**The Hill - Oil lobby turns focus to EPA in ethanol fight - 7/16/14** - The American Petroleum Institute (API) is focusing on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in its fight to reduce the ethanol blending mandate, conceding that there's little short-term hope in congressional action.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/212473-oil-lobby-turns-focus-to-epa-in-ethanol-fight#ixzz37lNvtbmZ>

**Greenwire - In fertile Mo. floodplain, farmers scratch their heads over EPA proposal - 7/16/14** - A seventh-generation farmer with 5,000 acres, Waters carries a fat ring of gate keys in the pocket of his blue jeans, calculates acreage on his iPhone and faces the prospect of a new U.S. EPA regulation not with ideology, but with a simple question: What will it mean for him? <http://www.eenews.net/stories/1060002973>

## **Press Releases:**

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

**Fact Sheets:**

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

**Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:**

\* New additions noted with an asterisk

**7/18/14** – Radio Interview with Kyle Hill, Regional Radio, Regional Office. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

**7/21/14** – Civil Rights Event, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**7/22/14** – Budget Forum, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**7/23/14** – Senior Leadership Retreat for Regional Administrators, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**7/24/14** – National Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Washington DC. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

**7/28/14** – Tribal Visit, Kickapoo Tribe, Horton, Kan. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

**7/29/14** – Tribal Visit, Winnebago Tribe, Winnebago, Neb., Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

**7/29-30/14** – Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Niobrara, Neb. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

**7/31/14** – Missouri Environmental & Energy Conference at the Lake, Osage Beach, Mo. Contact: David Cozad, 7587

**8/6/14** - St. Louis Regional Chamber of Commerce Meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: David Bryan, 7433

**8/11/14** – Clean Power Plan Forum with Utility Executives, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Mary Peterson, 7882

**8/13/14** – Iowa Association of Business & Industry, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Dave Bryan, 7433

**8/20/14** – Tribal Consultation Training, Regional Office. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

**DRA:**

**7/21/14** – Civil Rights Event, Washington, DC. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**7/22/14** – Budget Forum, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**7/23-7/24/14** Executive Management Council Meeting, Washington, DC Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

**8/20/14** – Tribal Consultation Training, Regional Office. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

**RA/Immediate Office**

None

**Other Events**

**AWMD**

**7/22/2014** – Participating in the Iowa Department of Natural Resources 111(d) kick off meeting, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487.

**CNSL**

None

**ECO/EJ**

None

**ENSV**

None

**PLMG**

None

**RA/OPA**

**7/21/14** – Attend West Lake Landfill Community Advisory Group meeting in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

**9/29-30/14** - Healthy Schools Outreach, Missouri School Plant Managers' Association Conference, Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Contact: Kathleen Fenton, 7874 and Harry Diesel, 7382

**SUPR**

None

**WWPD**

**8/18-21/14** – Purdue Pesticide Program Certification and Training Workshop, Indianapolis, Ind. Contact: Douglas Jones, 7592

